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(54) Title: RNA INTERFERENCE MEDIATED INHIBITION OF CHOLESTERYL ESTER TRANSFER PROTEIN (CETP)  
GENE EXPRESSION USING SHORT INTERFERING NUCLEIC ACID (siNA)

(57) Abstract: This invention relates to compounds, compositions, and methods useful for modulating cholesterol ester transfer protein (CETP) gene expression using short interfering nucleic acid (siNA) molecules. This invention also relates to compounds, compositions, and methods useful for modulating the expression and activity of other genes involved in pathways of CETP gene expression and/or activity by RNA interference (RNAi) using small nucleic acid molecules. In particular, the instant invention features small nucleic acid molecules, such as short interfering nucleic acid (siNA), short interfering RNA (siRNA), double-stranded RNA (dsRNA), micro-RNA (miRNA), and short hairpin RNA (shRNA) molecules and methods used to modulate the expression of CETP genes.